Pak Foreign Minister's statement on cross border terrorism

1264. DR. AKHILESH DAS:
SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the reported statement of Pakistan Foreign Minister made on 2nd June, 2003 to the effect that 'Pakistan did not have an "Aladdin's Lamp" to put an end to cross border terrorism, but was ready to cooperate with India in this regard;

(b) if so, whether Government see this as an admission of the continuing cross border terrorism in Kashmir; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto by way of bringing home the underlying meaning of the Pak statement to the international community, especially the big powers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH): (a) Pakistan Foreign Minister is reported to have said that Pakistan did not have "Aladdin's lamp" to stop cross border "activity" and asked India to come and make joint efforts with Pakistan so that peace is established in the region.

(b) Such statements clearly indicate that Government of Pakistan does not intend to exert full effort to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism or abandon using terrorism as an instrument of State policy against India.

(c) Government have been continuously taking a number of steps considered appropriate and effective and have been bringing to the attention of the world community facts pertaining to Pakistan's continued support and sponsorship of cross border infiltration and terrorism. The international community has repeatedly called upon Pakistan to fulfil its commitment to end cross border infiltration and terrorism, to dismantle the infrastructure of support to terrorism, and stop serving as a platform for international terrorism.